

The Great Christmas Epic! Pt 2–The Antagonist! Matthew 2, Revelation 12, December 5, 2021 – Second Sunday in Advent

"...And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born. ..." (Revelation 12:1-10; NKJ)

I. Christmas is the epic story of the great cosmic plan of God!

II. Christmas is the epic story of our great _____!

"And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon..." (v3)

A. Be aware of your enemy's _____.

"After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns." (Daniel 9:7; NKJ)

"The ten horns are ten kings who shall arise from this kingdom." (Daniel 9:24; NKJ)

"So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him." (v9)

B. Be alert to your enemy's _____.

"... lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices." (2 Corinthians 2:11; NKJ)

"You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it." (John 8:44; NKJ)

"Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son." (1 John 2:22; NKJ)

C. Be active in _____ against your enemy!

"But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." (2 Timothy 3:13-17; NKJ)

"The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness. But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle." (2 Thessalonians 2:9-15; NKJ)

1. Believe the _____ of the _____!

2. Pursue _____ and _____ living!

3. Stand fast in the _____ and the _____ of the Apostles.

Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle." (v15)